

RESOLUTION FOR VIRTUAL CONVENTION

Background

Article III of the Constitution of the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina (the “Diocese”) provides that there shall be an annual convention of the Diocese to be held at such time and place as determined by the preceding convention, or in the case of no such determination at such time and place as designated by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

Article V of the Constitution and Canon 14 of the Diocese provide that the Ecclesiastical Authority and the Executive Council shall act on behalf of, and shall have the authority of, the convention of the Diocese when the convention is not in session.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the potential health risk to individuals associated with large, in-person assemblies, the Bishop of the Diocese has requested the adoption of a special rule of order to permit the 99th annual convention of the Diocese to be held in a format that may allow persons to participate by use of audio conferencing, video conferencing, web conferencing or by other electronic means (collectively, “electronic communications technology”) that allow all persons participating in the convention to effectively communicate with each other during the course of the convention.

Resolutions

Having given due consideration to this matter, the Executive Council hereby resolves as follows:

1. The 99th annual convention of the Diocese may include the use of electronic communications technology that will allow clergy and lay delegates, wherever they may be physically located, to have the opportunity to hear and participate in the proceedings concurrently with their occurrence, vote on matters submitted to the convention that require a vote, pose questions to the President of convention, make appropriate motions and comment on the business of the meeting of the convention, and express their consent or dissent to any matter presented to convention for action.
2. The participation by a member of the convention at a meeting conducted using the technological means as specified above, including voting and taking any other action, shall constitute the presence of, or vote or action by, or consent or dissent of the member of convention for the purposes of the 99th annual convention of the Diocese.
3. The Bishop is charged with the responsibility for identifying more specific procedures and the technology to conduct the annual convention of the Diocese in accordance with the requirements of the above resolution.
4. The Bishop is to communicate with clergy and lay delegates the plans for and the detailed procedures for conducting the 99th annual convention as a virtual convention at least 30 days in advance of the schedule date for the start of such annual convention.
5. The agenda for the 99th annual convention of the Diocese shall include, as a first order of

business, a resolution to approve and ratify these resolutions of the Executive Council as a special rule of order for conducting the 99th annual convention, including use of the specific procedures and technology identified by the Bishop for conducting the annual convention as herein contemplated.

Acting in my capacity as Secretary of the Diocese, I hereby certify that at a duly called meeting of the Executive Council of the Diocese on October 7, 2021 at which a quorum was present to conduct business the foregoing resolutions were adopted by the Executive Council of the Diocese.

_____(Seal)
Lisa Rettew, Secretary of
The Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina

In recognition of my shared responsibility with the Executive Council of the Diocese to act on behalf of, and to exercise the authority of, the Convention when the Convention is not in session, I hereby consent to the resolutions adopted by the Executive Council of the Diocese as set forth above and agree to act in accordance therewith.

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin
Bishop Diocesan
Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina